

MAR 31 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

LA THANGUE et al

Atty. Ref.: 620-149

Serial No. 09/900,147

Group: 1642

Filed: July 9, 2001

Examiner: YU, M.

For: PEPTIDE ANTAGONISTS OF DP TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS

* * * * *

March 31, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

Responsive to the Official Action dated December 31, 2002, the Applicants elect, with traverse, the subject matter of the Examiner's Group I for further prosecution in the above. The Applicants note in this regard that the Examiner has indicated that claims 12, 16 and 20 are directed to a method of inducing apoptosis and are included in a separate Group II. In fact, claims 12, 16 and 20 should be included in the Examiner's Group I as claims 12, 16 and 20 are directed to polypeptides or compositions or products containing the same. Inclusion of claims 12, 16 and 20 in the elected Group I and examination of at least claims 1-12, 16 and 20 are requested.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are requested as, with due respect, examination of all the claimed subject matter should not be an undue burden on the Examiner.

Adjustment date: 07/11/2003 SDIRETA1
04/14/2003 RDOWNING 00000001 141140 09900147
01 FC:1252 410.00 CR

04/14/2003 RDOWNING 00000001 141140
01 FC:1252 410.00 CR
01

724783

An early and favorable action on the merits of all the claimed subject matter is requested.

Acceptance of the drawings filed July 9, 2001, is requested in the Examiner's next action.

Return of an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 filed July 9, 2001, is requested, pursuant to MPEP § 609, with the Examiner's next communication.

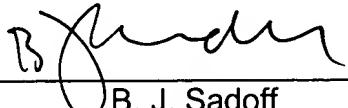
Acknowledgement of receipt of the certified copy of the priority document in the International Phase of the parent application is requested in the Examiner's next communication.

The Applicants note that the Office Action of December 31, 2002 indicated a three months response date for responding to the Office Action. See, page 1 of the Office Action dated December 31, 2002 (Paper No. 8). Accordingly, no extension fees are believed to be required for consideration of the present Response.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:



B. J. Sadoff
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:plb
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100